

REMARKS

No claims have been added, canceled, or amended. Claims 1-22 are currently pending in the application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects pending claims 1-2, 5, 8-13, 16, 18-19, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,629,142 to Badami et al. ("Badami"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Badami describes a method for processing client requests for resources at a server. (Abstract). The request is processed in a plurality of distinct phases and, in each phase, one or more directives are executed, which in turn, causes one or more functions to be invoked. (Col. 5, lines 25-32). In two of these phases, processing of the request involves determining whether the client is authorized to access the server and determining whether the client is authorized to access the specific resource requested on the server. (Col. 1, lines 33-35 and lines 43-52).

A configuration file indicates, for each phase, all the directives that may be executed in that phase. (Col 2, lines 13-14). The first time a client request for a particular resource is received by the server, the server processes the request using the configuration file. (Col. 4, lines 1-4). The server steps through the directives as indicated in the configuration file, phase by phase, directive by directive, and selectively executes directives to process the request. (Col. 2, lines 14-17). As the request for that particular resource is processed, a list of directives that were executed is compiled. (Col. 4, lines 4-5). As client requests are processed, an index table is created where each row of the

table has a first column that identifies a resource previously requested and a second column that points to a list of directives that were executed in a previous request for that resource. (Col. 6, lines 41-61 and Figs. 3 and 4). After an initial client request for a particular resource has been processed, subsequent requests for the same resource are processed by executing the directives identified in the directive list corresponding to that resource in the index table rather than stepping through the configuration file. (Col. 4, lines 9-13 and Col. 6, lines 38-41).

Independent claims 1, 8, 13, and 18 of the present application recite using security information in a record selected from a set of previously stored records to provide access to a computer resource identified in a request according to the distinct protocol utilized by that resource, where the resource is one of a plurality of computer resources at least some of which utilize distinct protocols for receiving security information and for providing access to outside systems based on received security information.

As shown above, Badami is directed to optimizing the processing of requests for resources that have been previously requested. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Badami that some of the plurality of the resources being requested utilize distinct protocols for receiving security information and for providing access to outside systems based on received security information, and that a requested resource is accessed according to the distinct protocol utilized by the resource, as recited in claims 1, 8, 13, and 18 of the present invention.

Independent claim 16 of the present application recites a data structure comprising a location for storing an identification of one of a plurality of users and a

location for storing security information for allowing the identified user to access a computer resource. As shown above, Badami discloses an index table storing resource identifiers each of which corresponds to a pointer of a list of directives to be executed when processing a request for the respective resource. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Badami of a data structure comprising locations for storing an identification of one of a plurality of users and for storing security information for allowing the identified user to access a computer resource, as recited in claim 16.

For at least the reasons above, Applicant submits that Badami does not anticipate claims 1, 8, 13, 16, and 18 of the present application. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentably distinct from Badami and allowable over the prior art. With respect to dependent claims 2, 5, 9-12, 19, and 22, as these claims depend from claims 1, 8, 13, 16, and 18, which Applicant submits are now allowable over the prior art, Applicant submits that these dependent claims now are allowable over the prior art for at least the same reasons.

Objection

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to pending claims 3-4, 14-15, 17, and 20-21 as being dependent upon rejected base claims. As these claims depend from claims which Applicant submits above are now allowable over the prior art, Applicant submits that these claims that were objected to in the Office Action are now allowable over the prior art for at least the same reasons.

Allowed Claims

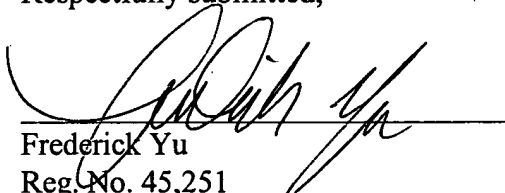
Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's statement in the Office
Action that claims 6-7 are allowed.

Conclusion

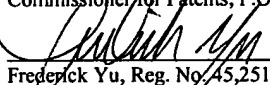
For at least the reasons stated above, pending claims 1-22 are allowable.
To expedite prosecution of this application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call
the Applicant's undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to this
application.

Respectfully submitted,

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2/7/05
Date